



**San Diego
County
Crime Stoppers**

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Crime Stoppers has a Record Year in 2008

105 Positive Tips, 135 Arrests

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In 2008, San Diego County Crime Stoppers has had a record year with tips to Crime Stoppers leading to 135 arrests.

Crime Stoppers has been helping law enforcement solve crime for 24 years and in that time has helped to solve 3,750 felony crimes in San Diego County. This includes 99 homicides. Crime Stoppers provides three ways for people to report crime anonymously: by phone, text, or web tip. Crime Stoppers also offers rewards for information leading to an arrest. Through the Campus Crime Stoppers program, local students have an avenue to report crime on their school campuses—39 positive tips were received from students this year.

High profile tips received by in 2008 Crime Stoppers include:

- A tip leading to an arrest in the murder of Manuel Santiago outside of a Ralph's Grocery Store in Hillcrest this summer
- A tip leading to the arrests of suspects wanted in the brutal attempted murder of an Australian tourist in Ocean Beach
- Tips that led to the closure of 13 bank robberies in the County
- Tips that led to the confiscation of 2 replica guns, 8 knives and marijuana, cocaine, and prescription drugs from local middle school and high school campuses

Without including December tips, 2008 tips to Crime Stoppers already exceed 2007 tips by 25%. Executive Director Sally Cox credits several factors to this increase. This summer, Crime Stoppers added anonymous text messaging and web tip technology which has dramatically increased tips from the public. Law enforcement agencies have been increasing their utilization of Crime Stoppers in crime investigations. In addition, media partners have been consistently informing the public about Crime Stoppers' tip lines—helping to get the word out.

"Crime Stoppers is an essential partner in our fight against crime," commented Bill Kolender, Sheriff for San Diego County. "Without an avenue for people to report crime anonymously and safely, many robberies, burglaries, assaults, and homicides would not be solved. We are indebted to Crime Stoppers for their help over the years."

For more information about Crime Stoppers 2008 year, contact Sally Cox at (858) 603-9810.

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